Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method to write information to two geographically separated virtual tape servers, wherein a first virtual tape server comprises one or more first virtual host devices comprising a first adjustable aggregate bandwidth, wherein said first virtual tape server is capable of communicating with one or more host computers via a virtual tape controller and said one or more first virtual host devices, and wherein a second virtual tape server comprises one or more second virtual host devices comprising a second adjustable aggregate bandwidth, wherein said second virtual tape server is capable of communicating with said one or more host computers via said virtual tape controller and said one or more second virtual host devices, and wherein said first virtual tape server and said second virtual tape server exchange information via said virtual tape controller and at least two channel extenders, comprising the steps of:

providing a file to said virtual tape controller from said one or more host computers;

writing said file to said first virtual tape server;

queuing a copy job in said virtual tape controller, wherein said copy job comprises copying said file to said second virtual tape server;

setting a ~~VTC~~ virtual tape controller throughput threshold;

setting an age threshold;

providing said file to said second virtual tape server;

determining the age of said queued copy job;

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determining the actual ~~VTC~~ <u>virtual tape controller</u> throughput;

determining if said actual ~~VTC~~ <u>virtual tape controller</u> throughput is greater than said throughput threshold;

~~operative if~~ <u>when</u> said actual ~~VTC~~ <u>virtual tape controller</u> throughput is greater than said throughput threshold, determining if the age of said queued copy job is less than said age threshold;

~~operative if~~ <u>when</u> said actual ~~VTC~~ <u>virtual tape controller</u> throughput is greater than said throughput threshold, and ~~if~~ <u>when</u> the age of said queued copy job is not less than said age threshold, decreasing said first adjustable aggregate bandwidth.

2. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

setting a nominal first adjustable aggregate bandwidth;

~~operative if~~ <u>when</u> the age of said queued copy job is less than said age threshold, setting said first adjustable aggregate bandwidth to said nominal first adjustable aggregate bandwidth.

3. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of ~~operative if~~ <u>when</u> said actual ~~VTC~~ <u>virtual tape controller</u> throughput is greater than said throughput threshold, and ~~if~~ <u>when</u> the age of said queued copy job is not less than said age threshold, decreasing said second adjustable aggregate bandwidth.

4. (currently amended) The method of claim 3, further comprising the steps of:

setting a nominal second adjustable aggregate bandwidth;

~~operative if~~ <u>when</u> the age of said queued copy job is less than said age threshold, setting said second adjustable aggregate bandwidth to said nominal second adjustable aggregate bandwidth

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5. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of providing a status signal from said virtual tape controller to each interconnected virtual tape server, wherein said status signal comprises said actual ~~VTC~~ <u>virtual tape controller</u> throughput.

6. (original) The method of claim 5, further comprising the steps of:

setting a status signal time interval; and

providing said status signal at each status signal time interval.

7. (original) The method of claim 6, further comprising the step of providing a status signal comprising the age of the oldest queued copy job.

8. (currently amended) The method of claim 7, wherein said first virtual tape server comprises a first memory, further comprising the step of ~~operative if~~ <u>when</u> said actual ~~VTC~~ <u>virtual tape controller</u> throughput is greater than said throughput threshold, saving in said first memory the age of the oldest queued copy job.

9. (currently amended) The method of claim 8, wherein said second virtual tape server comprises a second memory, further comprising the step of ~~operative if~~ <u>when</u> said actual ~~VTC~~ <u>virtual tape controller</u> throughput is greater than said throughput threshold, saving in said second memory the age of the oldest queued copy job.

10. (currently amended) The method of claim 7, further comprising the steps of:

determining if the age of the oldest queued copy job is less than said age threshold;

~~operative if~~ <u>when</u> the age of the oldest file queued for copying is not less than said age threshold, and ~~if~~ <u>when</u> said actual ~~VTC~~ <u>virtual tape controller</u> throughput is greater than said throughput threshold, decreasing said first adjustable aggregate bandwidth.

11. (currently amended) The method of claim 10, further comprising the step of

-6-

~~operative if~~ <u>when</u> the age of the oldest file queued for copying is not less than said age

threshold, and ~~if~~ <u>when</u> said actual ~~VTC~~ <u>virtual tape controller</u> throughput is greater than said

throughput threshold, decreasing said second adjustable aggregate bandwidth.

     12.   Canceled.

     13.   Canceled.

     14.   Canceled.

     15.   Canceled.

     16.   Canceled.

     17.   Canceled.

     18.   Canceled.

     19.   Canceled.